

Application No. 09/237,981
Reply to Office Action of 08/16/2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

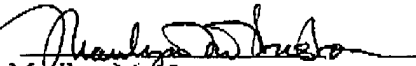
In accordance with the Examiner's statutory subject matter concerns under §101, claim 66, and thus all claims that depend therefrom, have been amended to clarify that the antibodies are isolated and purified, although they may of course be latter combined in a composition that includes other compounds and molecules.

In accordance with the Examiner's rejection under §102(e), claim 66, and thus all claims that depend therefrom, have been amended to clarify that the antibodies bind to a mammalian Del-1, although one of skill in the art appreciates that certain of such antibodies may also bind to fragments derived from Del-1 or the Del-1 polypeptide sequence that exhibit a same or similar epitope.

The Examiner's objection to claims 70, 76, and 78 is not clearly understood but it is hoped that the present amendments obviate any such objections. For the reasons stated herein, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 66 is allowable and that the dependent claims are, in turn, also allowable. Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the claims at an early date. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees incurred in this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1922. Should the Examiner have any questions, please do not hesitate to call Applicant's attorney at 832-446-2421.

Respectfully submitted,

By


Marilyn M. Huston

Reg. No. 37,851

Wong, Cabello, Lutsch, Rutherford & Brucculeri, L.L.P.


20333 SH 249, Suite 600

Houston, TX 77070

(832) 446-2421

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the USPTO Central Facsimile Number (703) 872-9306, according to 37 CFR § 1.6 (d) on January 17, 2005.


Marilyn M. Huston